

**FERC RELICENSING OF THE OROVILLE FACILITY
CULTURAL RESOURCES WORK GROUP
JULY 2002 UPDATE**

The last Cultural Resources Work Group (CRWG) meeting was held at Mooretown Rancheria on June 18, 2002. At that meeting it was agreed that summaries of activities conducted during July and August would be distributed to the CRWG in monthly updates in lieu of holding a regular monthly meeting. (There was some discussion at the June CRWG meeting that an August meeting might be necessary to discuss cumulative impacts analysis. It has since been determined that this meeting will not be necessary and cumulative impacts analysis will be further discussed in September.) This document provides that summary and fulfills the obligations of Action Item #C42, as identified in the meeting notes posted for the June CRWG meeting.

The next CRWG meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2002 at Mooretown Rancheria in Oroville.

Study Plan C-1 Update

The archaeological survey portion of Study Plan C-1 has been going at full tilt during the month of July, and the effort was bolstered by the addition of a third survey crew. By combining field strategies (re-recording previously known sites, continuing with the 30% sample survey blocks, and beginning coverage of the fluctuation zone), the survey teams are rapidly moving across the landscape. A great deal of time continues to be spent in the Craig Recreation Area, while other teams have surveyed areas on the South and North Forks of the Feather River. Crews have also completed much of the work below the dam, and have spent time in the Loafer Creek, Sycamore Creek, and Foreman Creek areas, and at Spring Creek Gulch and Potters Ravine.

The crews have completed approximately 62% of the sample survey blocks and have recorded 198 new archaeological sites, of which most are historic era sites. Of the 213 previously recorded sites, 84 (or 39%) have been re-recorded and updated. So far, a total of 282 sites have been recorded. These consist of 64 prehistoric sites, 193 historic sites, and 25 multi-component sites.

It should be noted that the projected low lake level for this year is at 680 feet, 30 feet below the projected level for 2001. As a result, it is estimated that 8477 acres will be exposed within the fluctuation zone, up from the 7800 acres projected with a lake level of 710 feet. Some survey of the fluctuation zone has begun in small side canyons that have been exposed, but the major effort will occur when maximum exposure occurs in October/November.

Research occurred during July to identify historically sensitive areas within the FERC boundary. Sixty-nine homesteads were identified within or adjacent to the project

area; 42 were assessed for sensitivity; and 12 were identified for further investigation. Survey of targeted historically sensitive areas will begin in August.

The ethnographic studies team has continued with archival research during the month of July, and they anticipate beginning interviews in August.

Maidu Advisory Council Update

The Maidu Advisory Council met on Wednesday, July 24, 2002. Attending were Paulette Hennum, Curator, and Leo Carpenter, Jr., Museum Planning Assistant, both from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Paulette and Leo discussed with the Advisory Council the concept of co-management of the non-NAGPRA archaeological materials currently housed in Sacramento. The discussion was very broad and general, touching on a variety of issues such as different examples of co-management, the need for a curation facility at Oroville, and pesticide contamination of cultural materials. The Advisory Council expressed interest in visiting the DPR collections in West Sacramento, and Paulette agreed to arrange a tour of the facilities.

Paulette and Leo also mentioned Senate Bill 2063. This is pending legislation for a California State Indian Museum that would receive seed money from Proposition 40. The legislation also specifies a task force—comprised mostly of California Indian representatives—to help develop plans for the museum.

The Advisory Council was then given an update on the archaeological fieldwork (see above). Other topics of conversation followed, including the need for radios for the survey crews, the Native American training program, the status of past meeting notes, and the need to begin considering development of the Historic Resources Management Plan.

Frank Winchell, FERC cultural resources coordinator, will be here for the September CRWG meeting. In order to allow him to meet with the Advisory Council, it was decided to schedule the September Council meeting for September 18. The August meeting will be held on August 21.

The Tribal Legacy Coordinators (TLCs), Art Angle (Enterprise), Patty Reece-Allen (Berry Creek), and Bruce Steidl (Mooretown), would like to remind everyone that they are invited and welcome to stop by the Oroville Cultural Resources Project office located at 2128 Myers Street anytime. Come by if you have questions or if you are just interested in seeing the facility. The TLCs' phone numbers are as follows:

Art Angle: (530) 534-0729

Patty Reece-Allen: (530) 534-0723

Bruce Steidl: (530) 534-0756